

Message Text

PAGE 01 NATO 05753 251739Z

47

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SUBJECT: AD HOC COMMITTEE ON EQUIPMENT INTEROPERABILITY: STANAGS
WORKING GROUP

SUMMARY: THE EIGHTH MEETING OF THE STANAG WORKING GROUP (WG/5) CONVENED ON OCTOBER 20, 1976. WG/5 CONSIDERED A STATUS REPORT FROM THE AIR ARMAMENTS PANEL OF MAS ON THE STANAGS WHICH WERE REFERRED TO THAT BODY FOR TECHNICAL REVIEW. THE WORKING GROUP DRAFT REPORT TO THE AD HOC COMMITTEE WAS THE PRINCIPLE AGENDA ITEM DISCUSSED. AS A RESULT OF LATE GUIDANCE RECEIVED FROM THE NATO INTERNATIONAL STAFF CONCERNING THE FORMAT AND SUBMISSION DATE FOR THE REPORT, THE WORKING GROUP HAD NO OPTION BUT TO AGREE TO ALLOW THE CHAIRMAN TO DRAFT THE REPORT. HOWEVER, THE WORKING GROUP DISCUSSED IN DETAIL THE TOPICS IT WANTED PRESENTED IN THE REPORT. END SUMMARY.

1. THE EIGHTH MEETING OF THE STANAG WORKING GROUP (WG/5)
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PAGE 02 NATO 05753 251739Z

CONVENED ON OCTOBER 20, 1976. REPRESENTATIVES FROM CANADA, FRANCE, GERMANY, THE NETHERLANDS, ITALY, TURKEY, UNITED KINGDOM, UNITED STATES AND SHAPE PARTICIPATED.

2. WG/5 REVIEWED A REPORT FROM THE AIR ARMAMENTS PANEL OF MAS WHICH PROVIDED THE LATEST STATUS ON A NUMBER OF STANAGS WHICH WG/5 HAD REFERRED TO IT FOR TECHNICAL REASONS. THE MAS PANEL REPORTED THAT AS A RESULT OF ITS LAST MEETING (SEPTEMBER 1976) ALL THE AIR ARMAMENTS STANAGS WHICH WG/5 HAD REFERRED TO IT WERE IN THE PROCESS OF AMENDMENT, I.E., AS A RESULT OF THE WG/5 INITIATIVE IN THIS AREA, THE PANEL HAS STARTED PREPARATION OF NEW AMENDMENTS WHICH WILL BRING THE STANAGS MORE IN LINE WITH THE NATIONAL COMMENTS EXPRESSED TO WG/5.

3. THE WORKING GROUP HAD CIRCULATED A DRAFT REPORT TO THE AD HOC COMMITTEE WHICH WAS TO BE REVIEWED AT THIS MEETING, MODIFIED AS APPROPRIATE, AND FORWARDED TO THE SECRETARIAT FOR INCLUSION IN THE OVERALL REPORT TO MINISTERS BY THE AD HOC COMMITTEE. THE CHAIRMAN (MGEN LAWSON, MAS) ANNOUNCED THAT THE NATO INTERNATIONAL STAFF HAD PROVIDED GUIDANCE TO THE WORKING GROUP WHICH ESSENTIALLY SAID THAT THE REPORT MUST NOT EXCEED TWO PAGES, AND MUST BE SUBMITTED NLT OCTOBER 22, 1976. THEREFORE, THE DRAFT REPORT WHICH WAS TO BE CONSIDERED NEEDED TO BE COMPLETELY REFORMATTED AND REWRITTEN TO CONFIRM TO THE GUIDANCE RECEIVED. AS A RESULT, THE WORKING GROUP SPENT THE REST OF THE DAY TRYING TO DRAFT A REPORT. DRAFTING A REPORT BY COMMITTEE IS AN UNFRUITFUL EVOLUTION AND THIS EXERCISE WAS NO EXCEPTION. THEREFORE, THE WORKING GROUP AGREED, AFTER MAKING CLEAR ITS DESIRES ON TOPICS AND FORMAT (IN SOME CASES THE SPECIFIC PHRASEOLOGY), THAT THE CHAIRMAN WOULD WRITE THE REPORT. COMMENT. IF THE REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN CONTAINS ALL THE WORKING GROUP SUGGESTIONS, IT WILL ESSENTIALLY CONTAIN THE SAME TOPICS AS THE DRAFT REPORT WHICH WE DELIVERED TO WASHINGTON IN MID-OCTOBER. DESPITE THE FACT THAT THE WG/5 REPORT WAS SUBMITTED TO THE SECRETARIAT OCTOBER 22, WE WILL STILL HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT ON IT AS A PART OF THE AD HOC COMMITTEE REPORT

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 NATO 05753 251739Z

WHEN IT IS CIRCULATED FOR CONSIDERATION. END COMMENT.

4. NO FURTHER MEETINGS OF WG/5 ARE SCHEDULED AT THIS TIME. HOWEVER, THE WORKING GROUP RECOGNIZES THAT SOME ADDITIONAL WORK WILL BE REQUIRED WHEN THE PILOT STUDY ON THE MONITORING SYSTEM IS COMPLETED.

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